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DE RUEHRH #1831 3561425  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 211425Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9664  
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH PRIORITY 9910  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS RIYADH 001831

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EEB AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [EINV](#) [SA](#) [PK](#)  
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL SAUDI RESPONSE TO PAKISTAN DONORS  
CONFERENCE DEMARCHE

REF: A. RIYADH 1808  
[1](#)B. SECSTATE 129615

[1](#)1. (SBU) Econ Counselor sought additional information on ref B demarche from the Saudi government (SAG) in a December 21 meeting with Deputy Economic Minister Hamad Al-Baz'y. Al-Baz'y said that Saudi Arabia has always been a friend of Pakistan and they would likely attend a donors' conference when it is convened. He added that the SAG was still discussing the amount of any commitment they might offer but that no decision had been made.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Concerning the date of any potential conference, Al-Baz'y did not indicate any SAG preference, but he seemed concerned that delaying the date past January 20 would result in the conference not being held until late February or March at the earliest due to the U.S. domestic political timetable. He said that the sooner we could provide a definite date the better.  
RUNDELL